

Ascutney Professional Building, Route 5 Post Office Box 320, Ascutney, VT 05030 802 674-9201 / fax 802 674-5711 www.swcrpc.org

U.S. EPA, Region 1 Attn: Mr. Frank Gardner 5 Post Office Square Suite 100, Mail Code OSRR7-2 Boston, MA 02109-3912

November 14, 2017

Dear Mr. Gardner:

Enclosed is the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission's proposal for the Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields Assessment Grant Program. The following information is provided pursuant to the Proposal Guidelines for Brownfields Assessment Grants:

- a. **Applicant Identification:** Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission, Ascutney Professional Building, Route 5 South, P.O. Box 320, Ascutney, VT 05030-0320
- b. Funding Requested
 - i. Grant Type: Brownfields Assessment
 - ii. Type: Community-wide
 - iii. Federal Funds Requested: \$250,000.00 (\$200,000.00 hazardous/\$50,000.00 petroleum)
 - iv. Contamination: Hazardous Substances and Petroleum
- c. **Location:** The SWCRPC serves the following ten member towns: Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish, Chester, Ludlow, Reading, Springfield, Weathersfield, West Windsor, and Windsor.
- d. N/A
- e. Contact:
 - i. **Executive Director:** Thomas Kennedy, Executive Director, Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission, P.O. Box 320, Ascutney, VT 05030; phone: (802) 674-9201, fax: (802) 674-5711; email: tkennedy@swcrpc.org
- f. **Population:** The SWCRPC Region has a population of 24,711 (2010 U.S. Census)

Windsor County Poverty Indicator 9%. Source: Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates
Town of Springfield Poverty Indicators: all families: (16.7%); 18-64 (13.5%); under 18 (31.8%); under 5 (41.7%) Source: American Community Service (2011-015)

Town of Windsor Poverty Indicators: all families: (11.4%); 18-64 (17.1%); Under 18 (23.9%); under 5 (27.5%) Source: American Community Service (2011-2015)

- g. Date Submitted: November 16, 2017
- h. **Project Period:** October 1, 2018 September 30, 2021
- i. Regional Priorities Form/Other Factors Checklist: See Attachment A for the completed form.

The Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission would like to thank the EPA for its ongoing commitment to brownfields efforts, as well as this opportunity to seek additional brownfields assessment grants funding. Please contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Kennedy, Executive Director

ATTACHMENT A REGIONAL PRIORITIES FORM & OTHER FACTORS CHECKLIST

Appendix 3 - Regional Priorities Form/Other Factors Checklist

Name of Applicant: Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission

Regional Priorities Other Factor

If your proposed Brownfields Assessment project will advance the regional priority(ies) identified in Section I.F., please indicate the regional priority(ies) and the page number(s) for where the information can be found within your 15-page narrative. Only address the priority(ies) for the region in which your project is located. EPA will verify these disclosures prior to selection and may consider this information during the selection process. If this information is not clearly discussed in your narrative proposal, it will not be considered during the selection process.

Regional Priority Title(s):

1) Assistance to Communities That Have Limited In-House Capacity to Manage Brownfield Projects, 2) Coordinated Public Funding for Brownfields

Page Number(s):

1) pp. 6-10, 14 2) pp. 9-10

Assessment Other Factors Checklist

Please identify (with an x) which, if any, of the below items apply to your community or your project as described in your proposal. To be considered for an Other Factor, you must include the page number where each applicable factor is discussed in your proposal. EPA will verify these disclosures prior to selection and may consider this information during the selection process. If this information is not clearly discussed in your narrative proposal or in any other attachments, it will not be considered during the selection process.

Other Factor	Page #
None of the Other Factors are applicable.	
Community population is 10,000 or less.	
The jurisdiction is located within, or includes, a county experiencing "persistent	
poverty" where 20% or more of its population has lived in poverty over the past	
30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and the most	
recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates.	
Applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian tribe or United States	
territory.	
Target brownfield sites are impacted by mine-scarred land.	
Project is primarily focusing on Phase II assessments.	8-9
Applicant demonstrates firm leveraging commitments for facilitating brownfield	
project completion, by identifying in the proposal the amounts and contributors	9-10
of resources and including documentation that ties directly to the project.	
Applicant is a recipient of an EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning grant.	

ATTACHMENT B LETTERS FROM STATE



AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

State of Vermont
Department of Environmental Conservation
Waste Management & Prevention Division
1 National Life Drive – Davis 1
Montpelier, VT 05620-3704
(802) 249-5822
Patricia.coppolino@vermont.gov

November 13, 2017

Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission Attn: Mr. Thomas Kennedy PO Box 320 Ascutney, VT 05030

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

This letter will serve as acknowledgment that the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has received notice that the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission (SWCRPC) intends to apply for a hazardous materials EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant and to use the grant funds, if awarded, to conduct general site assessment activities associated with the characterization of non-petroleum related brownfield properties within the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission (SWCRPC) region with special emphasis in Springfield and Windsor, VT.

The State of Vermont is very appreciative of your programmatic successes and of your intent to apply for additional grant funding, as SWCRPC's local involvement in the Brownfield Program continues to assist us in the assessment of properties in Vermont. The objectives of the assessments are appropriate and consistent and continue to progress the objectives of the Vermont Brownfields Program and we will also assist in the petroleum determinations for any identified properties.

As you progress in your efforts with brownfield assessments, the Vermont DEC looks forward to working collaboratively with SWCRPC to assist potential developers enter the Vermont Brownfield Environmental Liability Limitation Program, through which additional cleanup funding is available.

Good luck in the competition.

Sincerely,

Patricia Coppolino, Environmental Program Manager

Sites Management Section

Waste Management and Prevention Division





AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

State of Vermont
Department of Environmental Conservation
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1 National Life Drive – Davis 1
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Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission Attn: Mr. Thomas Kennedy PO Box 320 Ascutney, VT 05030 November 13, 2017

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

This letter will serve as acknowledgment that the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has received notice that the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission (SWCRPC) intends to apply for a petroleum EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant and to use the grant funds, if awarded, to conduct general site assessment activities associated with the characterization of petroleum related brownfield properties within the SWCRPC region with priority towards Springfield and Windsor, Vermont.

The State of Vermont is very appreciative of your programmatic successes and of your intent to apply for grant funding, as SWCRPC's local involvement in the Brownfield Program continues to assist us in the inventory, assessment of properties and eventual redevelopment of brownfields in Vermont. The objectives of the assessments are appropriate and consistent and continue to progress the objectives of the Vermont Brownfields Program and we will assist in the petroleum determinations for the identified properties.

As you progress in your efforts with brownfield assessments, the Vermont DEC looks forward to working collaboratively with the SWCRPC and to assist potential developers enter into the Vermont Brownfield Environmental Liability Limitation Program and Petroleum Cleanup Fund, through which additional cleanup funding is available.

Good luck in the competition.

Sincerely,

Patricia Coppolino, Environmental Program Manager

Brownfields Response Program

Waste Management and Prevention Division



SOUTHERN WINDSOR COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION RANKING CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT GRANTS

1. COMMUNITY NEED

1.a. Target Area and Brownfields

1.a.i. Community and Target Area Descriptions: The Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission (RPC) represents ten towns (Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish, Chester, Ludlow, Reading, Springfield, Weathersfield, West Windsor, and Windsor) in the southern Windsor County region of Vermont with a population of 24,711 (2010 U.S. Census). The area is rural but has development centers known for their contributions to the precision machine tool industry in Windsor and Springfield. From the late 1800s through most of the 1900s, the region was a hub of innovation and industry. By the latter half of the twentieth century, however, changes in technologies and world trade had profound impacts on the local economies and resulted in significant job loss. As recently as the 1980s, the Town of Springfield, had over 3,000 jobs in the machine tool manufacturing sector; by 2002, with the bankruptcy of Goldman Group, those jobs vanished. The remnant of this past prominence is nearly 1 million sq. ft. of vacant, contaminated, industrial space, much of which is in or adjacent to downtowns, along waterways, or located within residential neighborhoods.

This proposal will focus on two target areas within the SWCRPC region that are home to some of the largest brownfields in the state. They include Springfield's Park and Main Streets – which are located adjacent to the downtown. This targeted area includes 14 potential brownfield sites. In Windsor, the 50 acre industrial Riverfront Revitalization Area, which is bracketed by Historic Downtown Windsor and the low income residential neighborhood on Jarvis and National Streets.

1.a.ii. Demographic Information and Indicators of Need

Demographic	Springfield	Windsor	Windsor County	Vermont State	National
Population ¹	9,258	3,495	56,150	626,604	316,127,513 ¹
% Unemployment ¹	8.2	6.1	5.1	5.1	8.3%1
% Poverty Rate ¹	16.7	16.6	11.1	11.5	15.5% ¹
% Percent Minority	2.2^{2}	1.2^{2}	1.4^{2}	1.7^{2}	37.8% ¹
Median Household	40,121	37,105	52,965	55,176	\$53,889 ¹
Income ¹					

¹Data are from the 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates available on American FactFinder. Percent minority is derived from the Hispanic or Latino and Race population table at https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml
²Percent Minority (all non-white)

1.a.iii. <u>Description of Brownfields</u> In Springfield, we estimate approximately fourteen (12 hazardous, 2 petroleum) Brownfield sites within the Target Area totaling approximately 12 acres. The downtown, which is bisected by the Black River, was home to past industries including cloth manufacturing, machine manufacturing, machine shops, automotive repair shops, and dry cleaners. The Windsor Target Area includes fifteen potential brownfield properties (14 hazardous, 1 petroleum) totaling nearly all of the 50 acre area. Former industries that were located in this area included: tire manufacturing, a machine manufacturer, a former rail yard, metal foundries, bulk

fuel storage, municipal waste disposal areas, gas stations, and heavy equipment maintenance facilities.

Highlighted sites within these Target Areas that will be assessed if the grant is awarded include hazardous and petroleum sites. Petroleum sites were identified using Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps and local knowledge to identify properties with historic underground storage tanks. Priority Sites include:

- Springfield: The former **Park Street School** is a municipally owned property totaling over 70,000 square feet of usable building space on 5.5 acres. Primary potential contaminants include asbestos, polychlorinated biphenyls, and petroleum fuels in association with the school building and automotive fluids and solvents associated with past bus maintenance activities in an associated structure. Park Street located in downtown Springfield, is the primary route to Main Street for this residential community of approximately 700. One of the largest brownfields along this thoroughfare is **Parks & Woolson**; a 3-story, circa 1830's industrial complex which looms over Park St. and was, until 2002, the longest running manufacturing company in the State of Vermont. Past site practices included the use of cutting fluids, solvents, metals, and various ancillary chemicals of concern. The **5-7 Main Street** property, has been identified to be the location of a new riverfront park was, among other things, the former location of a volunteer fire department that included the use of a UST, as well as a grist and saw mill structure.
- Windsor: In Windsor, the creation of a multi-use path, public gathering space, and boat launch are planned as part of the Windsor Riverfront Revitalization Plan by the Windsor Downtown Program using a Building Better Connections grant. The proposed path traverses several brownfield properties including the former Windsor Railyard and the Cone Blanchard machine manufacturing company. Nearby brownfield sites include the former Goodyear Industrial Campus, a metal foundry, a coal gasification plant, a bulk petroleum storage facility, and a former dry cleaner. This heavily industrialized area is directly adjacent to the Jarvis and National Streets neighborhood. This area is a former tenement community for employees who worked at the former Goodyear plant. This neighborhood has long been isolated from downtown Windsor since it is on the opposite of the railroad tracks and its adjacency to the former industrial facilities.

1.b. Welfare, Environmental, and Public Health Impacts

1.b.i. Welfare Impacts: The former plants, many of which now sit abandoned and deteriorating and continue to threaten the safety of the region's population. Most are in public places vulnerable to blight, vandalism, theft, dumping, and loitering which brings people to the sites exposing them to contaminants through contact with contaminated building materials, soils, and vapors. The rapidly deteriorating condition of the buildings presents its own hazard as roofs and walls continue to collapse and contaminants co-mingle. In 2017, a teenage trespasser was badly injured within one of the Springfield sites when a floor collapsed. These blighted, vacant and contaminated buildings and lots are prime locations for incidents of crime and the proliferation of drug abuse and addiction among impoverished youth, an already sensitive population. An EJSCREEN assessment revealed the following:

Town Target Area	Springfield	Windsor
Target Area (sq. miles)/ population	.25/625	.25/687

EJ Indicator (percentiles)	State	EPA R1	State	EPA R1
Demographic Index	95	77	77	63
Hazardous Waste Proximity	95	78	81	69
Superfund Proximity	75	72	64	68
NATA Respiratory Hazard	94	78	57	66
NATA Air Toxics Cancer Risk	94	78	68	66

1.b.ii. <u>Cumulative Environmental Issues</u>: The machine-tool and other industries have left a number of brownfield sites in the southern Windsor County region with enormous environmental problems, including, but not limited to, extensive PCB contamination, chlorinated solvents in groundwater and soil, and contaminated building materials. According to the Vermont Hazardous Sites Database maintained by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, the region contains 69 active hazardous waste sites, the majority of which are located within Windsor and Springfield. Furthermore, the Old Springfield Landfill, a Superfund site located in the Town of Springfield, is a result from the disposal of wastes generated from the area's many former machine plants. An inventory of managed environmental sites can be found in the table below:

Target Areas	Hazardous Sites ²	H/W Generators	UST	Dry Cleaners	Total
Springfield ¹	27	11	16	12	66
Windsor ¹	15	6	6	4	31

¹Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Atlas, Waste Management identified sites.

Brownfield sites in targeted areas were built along major rivers which are along or drain to the Connecticut River and, ultimately, Long Island Sound, threatening surface and groundwater resources. The Black River in Springfield is threatened by at least six brownfields sites. Recent water quality testing in the Black River downstream of the town center revealed that PAHs and certain priority pollutant metals were present in the river sediment above Vermont's screening levels placing this 4.6 mile segment on Vermont's 2014 303(d) List of Impaired Waters There are several large sites in the Windsor target area that are directly adjacent to the Connecticut River.

1.b.iii. <u>Cumulative Public Health Impacts:</u> Specific health data for the Windsor target area is not available, however, trends for Springfield Hospital were obtained from a 2010 study, Health and Healthcare Trends in Vermont, by the Vermont Department of Health. Average annual hospitalizations for likely brownfields related health issues which include: asthma, depression, and substance abuse, have been trending up and are notably higher for the Springfield area compared to the state average. Depression as an indicator was selected as the visual of passing deteriorating brownfield sites on a daily basis can cause stress and depression in sensitive populations. The Springfield Hospital Service Area has also seen the highest annual hospitalizations for substance abuse of any other Hospital Service Area in the state, according to the study.

Year Range	Average Annual Hospitalizations per 10,000 ¹				
	Asthma	Depression ³	Substance Abuse ³		

²Excludes potential brownfields sites based on historic use.

	State ²	Springfield ²	State ²	Springfield ²	State ²	Springfield ²
1998-2000	6.3	9.2	65.6	133.0	102.2	209.9
2001-2003	6.7	10.0	84.3	159.3	117.4	220.7
2004-2006	6.3	11.0	94.7	179.2	132.8	230.4

¹Health & Healthcare Trends in Vermont, May 2010

1.c. Financial Need

- 1.c.i. <u>Economic Conditions</u>: The RPC and the Towns of Springfield and Windsor lack the financial resources to fund assessment activities. Key factors that limit the ability to fund such work include:
- Springfield has experienced a steady decline in its Grand List of about 1% each year over the past 6 years while Windsor's has been essentially flat for the past several years.
- Severe flood damage from Tropical Storm Irene in 2011, particularly in southern Windsor County, placed an extraordinary burden on town budgets with infrastructure repairs from the storm that are still needed today. Since-2011, town infrastructure was further impacted by an additional five Federal Disaster Declarations for Windsor County, primarily flood related (FD#4043, 4066, 4120, 4140, 4207) necessitating additional infrastructure expenditures and upgrades. The Town of Windsor has recently bonded \$1.5MM in order to cover the cost of safety repairs to a high-risk dam in town that was damaged due to Irene.
- According to the Current Labor Statistics Program (www.vtlmi.info), counties in Vermont outside the Burlington-South Burlington NECTA, the number of jobs continue to lag-10 years after the 2007 recession.
- Statewide, the proportion of the population expected to be in the labor force is shrinking, while those that are too young or are retired or near retirement is growing. In addition to these factors, there is a significant migration of our young people leaving Vermont which further exacerbates workforce issues.

1.c.ii. <u>Economic Effects of Brownfields</u> Many of the brownfield sites in southern Windsor County are some of the largest in the state with, approximately, five 200,000 sq. ft. facilities. These abandoned and deteriorating sites not only contribute to local blight, but severely impact municipal growth. Using the comparable Jones Center property in Springfield as an example, a larger (100,000 square feet) vacant facility has the potential to add approximately, \$1.5- \$2.5mm for the Towns' grand list and 125-150 jobs. There are 5 such brownfields in the target areas and more than 10 in the towns overall.

Potential new investors become understandably discouraged with an overwhelming visual perception of blight and poverty that appears insurmountable with dilapidated and contaminated structures in the downtown centers and along the gateway corridors. In Springfield, most blighted structures are easily visible to the public on both sides of the Black River and pose real safety concerns for investors. In Windsor, one needs only to look out the rear window of a main street storefront to have a view of the derelict former plants.

²Vermont State compared to Springfield Hospital Service Area over given year range

³Includes primary reason for hospitalization and/or if mentioned during admission or stay

As a result, job loss combined with stagnant and reduced incomes exacerbated by the presence of brownfields have depressed housing values in these areas. 25% of home values in these towns are below \$100,000, more than double that for the County and State.

Harder to quantify, but no less important, are the impacts to the local health care system. The presence of these brownfields compounded by other environmental burdens have had an impact on health care system costs with higher per-capita rates of hospitalization due to drug abuse, asthma and depression as described under health impacts for the Town of Springfield.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND FEASIBILITY OF SUCCESS

2.a. Project Description, Redevelopment Strategy, Timing and Implementation

2.a.i. <u>Project Description and Alignment with Revitalization Plans</u>: As the Town of Springfield continues to make progress in remediating brownfield sites on Clinton Street, the "gateway" to its historic downtown center, a redevelopment plan for the downtown center has renewed local enthusiasm and commitment to revitalization efforts. The Springfield Streetscapes Master Plan is a comprehensive redevelopment plan made possible with funding from the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development and Agency of Transportation for reinventing the heart of the historic downtown center. Planned improvements are designed to improve pedestrian access, to reconnect the community and businesses with the riverfront, reuse underutilized properties, and attract future businesses to the area. It identifies a number of opportunities to build on the Town's dramatic downtown river setting and high-speed internet infrastructure to create a healthier, more attractive environment to encourage private investment.

The Springfield Master Plan provides redevelopment/reuse concepts for downtown properties, including parcels along the Park Street target area, which have already been identified as brownfields sites and will require assessment in order for these plans to move forward. The landmark Parks & Woolson building is a large vacant brownfield complex in deteriorating condition on Park Street, also slated for reuse in this plan. Other sites in the downtown area that are integral to the success of the revitalization plan include a former machine shop, grist & saw mill, former fire station, and a former gasoline retailer that will require assessment prior to redevelopment for retail use, open space, and a riverwalk.

As an outcome of the Building Better Connections program, the Windsor Downtown Program will aim to 1) create public spaces for community gatherings and public art, 2) reduce or eliminate blight, 3) provide safe pedestrian access between the downtown and Riverside community, and 4) provide recreational access to the Connecticut River. As an outcome of this initiative the Town of Windsor will create an action plan to guide downtown commercial and industrial redevelopment, improve housing affordability in surrounding neighborhoods, and explore ideas to reconnect to the Connecticut River - making Windsor a great place to live, work and do business.

These revitalization efforts, can be made possible with brownfields assessment and remediation. These efforts meet a number of the HUD "The Livability Principles" and Sustainable and Equitable Development Outcomes in these areas: valuing and supporting existing communities with green walkable spaces and additional recreational space; local access to higher educational programs; increasing economic competitiveness through additional retail space; expanding transportation options and cycling access lanes. Sustainable and equitable outcomes benefit the more impoverish residents in town, by providing an attractive, greener and healthier environment with expanded and improved access to downtown areas and recreational opportunities.

With respect to potential projects throughout the remainder of the region, the SWCRPC is well situated to ensure that these projects would be in conformance with local and regional land use plans and to ensure they are in accordance with State planning goals and adhere to Smart Growth principles.

2.a.ii. Redevelopment Strategy: The recent infrastructure upgrades in downtown Springfield to fiber optic 1Gbps high speed digital Internet with the option to upgrade to 10Gbps, together with future plans to install wireless broadband has set the stage for strong economic growth. A key strategic initiative, given brownfields assessment and cleanup support, is a transformation of the Park Street School to a live-in Tech Accelerator where small business and entrepreneurs can live, work and collaborate sharing high tech tools, all within walking distance from downtown retail, markets, and amenities. The central location of this facility will also allow for a Computer Science initiative, to provide education in coding for local schools. A preliminary walk through of this structure and its grounds by environmental consultants has determined suspected hazards of concern to include asbestos, lead and petroleum. The environmental assessment process for this property can begin upon award to be followed with cleanup using our current RLF cleanup funds.

In Windsor, with guidance provided by the Riverside Revitalization Plan, redevelopment within the Target Area will include 1) a multi-use pedestrian and bicycle path providing safe, sustainable connectivity between the historic downtown Windsor, the Riverside Neighborhood, and grocery and other retailers on the northern edge of town 2) gathering spaces complete with public art displays, and 3) access points to the Connecticut River. This revitalization plan will provide a sense of place for a long neglected area of Town. Implementation will require responsible redevelopment of several blighted properties to prevent unacceptable impacts to users.

2.a.iii. <u>Timing and Implementation:</u> The SWCRPC is experienced in conducting the required activities to complete this project and can ensure all grant funding will be expended within three years. The Brownfields Team, comprised of the RPC Executive Director, Brownfields Program Coordinator (BPC), RPC financial administrator, and the five-member Brownfields Steering Committee (BSC), will be responsible for the tasks detailed below.

<u>2.a.iii(a)</u> Contractor Procurement: We anticipate submitting our Work Plan to the EPA by July 2018. During the pre-award period, the BPC will issue a Request for Proposal to solicit three to five QEP contractors. The SWCRPC has formal procurement policies and procedures in place, including request for proposals (RFP), and selection of pre-qualified environmental professionals (QEP). Proposals will be reviewed as a team with members of the BSC. Selected contractors will be asked to enter into a three-year contract with two option years. Procurement will be completed within the first quarter.

2.a.iii(b) Site Identification, Prioritization and Selection: The RPC has an existing inventory of sites produced during prior grants. We have formal access to several target properties whose assessment will begin immediately upon receipt of the award and determination of eligibility by the EPA Project Officer. Notably, the Park Street School property is under option by the Springfield Regional Development Corporation, which is a development partner for this project. Upon award in early Spring 2018, SWCRPC will issue a press release and will post on the RPC website and in its newsletter with information about the program and will encourage additional interested applicants to contact the BPC for information on site eligibility, obtaining site access, deadlines, and on the selection process to be conducted by the Brownfields Steering Committee (BSC). The BPC, together with the BSC and

Executive Director will begin working with the owner/developer of existing sites and EPA Region 1 Project Manager to secure eligibility and site access agreements.

The BSC is tasked with evaluating potential sites, prioritizing site selection based on a set of criteria, and allocating all brownfields funding. To administer its tasks, the BSC relies on site information provided by the Program Coordinator. The BPC, with input from the DEP, will provide an initial overview of potential environmental contamination, redevelopment plans, the financial need of the applicant, economic development potential, and time lines. The BSC uses the following criteria in the selection process for sites that have secured site eligibility and access:

- Project location and synergy with Target Areas
- Property status and readiness
- Redevelopment potential for social, economic and sustainable benefits
- Feasibility of success for redevelopment plans and access to leveraged funding
- Cost/benefit of anticipated remediation costs

The BSC will meet in June 2018 to review the work plan and the status of existing sites. We anticipate the BSC will have evaluated and prioritized existing selected sites by August 2018, as many of the potential sites in the target areas have already been identified. They will continue to meet periodically to address issues that may arise and to evaluate new sites given available funding.

<u>2.a.iii(c)</u> Obtaining and Securing Access: The Program Coordinators will be responsible for working with property owners, developers, municipal and local partners, and potential buyers to secure site eligibility and site access, and will work with EPA Region 1 and VT DEC staff as required and based on contamination expected. These criteria will be required prior to Site acceptance into the Program.

2.b. Task Descriptions and Budget Table

2.b.i. <u>Task Descriptions:</u> Specific Hazardous Substance (Haz.) and Petroleum (Petro.) tasks and outputs are described below.

Task	Description	Outputs
Task 1:	RPC Staff:	• Hire 3 to 5 QEP Contractors.
Cooperative Agreement Oversight	 Manage cooperative agreement Project coordination (contractor procurement, reporting) Attend national Brownfield conference and EPA-sponsored trainings Expenses (80/20 Haz./Petro.): Personnel: \$6,500 Travel: \$1200¹ Contractual: \$0 Supplies: \$200 	 Submit eligibility determinations for Petro. sites to VTDEC. Submit eligibility determinations for Haz. To EPA Region 1 Submit 12 quarterly reports MBE/WBE utilization reports. Submit final report and other reports as necessary.
		Attend 2019 National Brownfield Conference.
Task 2: Community Outreach	Hold 18 Brownfield Steering Committee meetings.	BSC Meeting Minutes (site selection and program updates)

	 Develop content for printed and web materials. Hold public meetings to present assessment findings and review proposed remedial actions; address concerns, as necessary. Engage local community groups and program partners. Expenses (80/20 Haz./Petro.): Personnel: \$6,500 Travel: \$150 Supplies: \$500 Contractual: \$1,950 ² 	 Website updates, including ArcGIS Online webmaps. Produce program brochure Hold 4 public meetings during reuse and remedial planning
Task 3: Site Assessment Activities	 Coordinate with EPA and VT DEC. Coordinate Site Access with property owners Conduct 3 Haz. and 1 Petro. Phase I ESAs Conduct 3 Hazardous Building Materials Surveys Conduct 3 Haz. and 1 Petro. Phase II ESAs. Expenses: Personnel: \$6,000 Travel: \$240 Supplies: \$0 Contractual (Total): \$185,500 ³ Phase I ESAs: \$3,500 for small sites (2 Haz., 1 Petro.) and \$6,500 for mill complex (Haz.) Haz. Building Surveys: \$2,500 for 2 small Haz. sites and \$12,500 for mill complex. Phase II ESAs: Average \$20,000 for 2 small Haz. sites; \$77,500 for mill complex site. Phase II ESA for Petro.: \$32,500 	 ASTM E1527-13 Phase I ESA Reports (4) SSQAPPs (4) ASTM E1903-11 Phase II ESA Reports (4) Hazardous Building Materials survey reports (3)
Task 4: Site Reuse and Remedial Planning	 Conduct 3 Haz. and 1 Petro remedial plans. Review remedial plans and coordinate with EPA and VT DEC. Help facilitate communication between landowners and perspective purchasers. Expenses: Personnel: \$6,000 Travel: \$260 Contractual (Total): \$35,000 ⁴ \$7,500 for small sites (2 Haz., 1 Petro.) and \$12,500 for mill complex (Haz.) Supplies: \$0 	 Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (4) Community Relations Plans (4) ECAA/CAP (4) Public meetings with minutes (4)

¹ Travel expenses include airfare, lodging, and per diem for three days attendance at national conference. ² Contractual costs include development of ArcGIS Online webmap based on fees incurred on similar projects. ³ Contractual costs for Phase I/II ESAs are based on the RPC's experience with sites of similar historical context and size to those within the Target Area for the contaminants of concern. ⁴ Contractual costs for remedial planning are based on the RPC's experience with similar sites to those within the Target Area.

2.b.ii. <u>Budget Table:</u> The percentage of the Grant to be spent on Site Assessment activities (Phase I/II ESAs) is 77%; 74% of the budget is slated for Phase II ESAs.

Budget	Project Tasks				
Categories	Task 1 Agreement & Project Oversight	Task 2 Community Outreach & Engagement	Task 3 Site Assessment Activities	Task 4 Cleanup Planning	Total
Personnel* Hazardous Petroleum	\$5,200 \$1,300	\$5,200 \$1,300	\$4,500 \$1,500	\$4,500 \$1,500	\$19,400 \$5,600
Travel Hazardous Petroleum	\$960 \$240	\$120 \$30	\$200 \$40	\$200 \$60	\$1,480 \$370
Supplies Hazardous Petroleum	\$160 \$40	\$400 \$100	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$560 \$140
Contractual Hazardous Petroleum	\$0 \$0	\$1,950 \$390	\$149,500 \$36,000	\$27,500 \$7,500	\$178,560 \$43890
Sub-Totals Hazardous Petroleum	\$6,320 \$1,580	\$7,280 \$1,820	\$166,800 \$30,200	\$32,200 \$9,060	\$200,000 \$50,000
Total	\$7,900	\$9,100	\$191,740	\$41,260	\$250,000

2.c. Ability to Leverage

The RPC has identified the following opportunities to leverage EPA Assessment funds:

Source	Purpose/Role	Amount	Status
Town of Windsor-	To design pedestrian path along	\$62,000	Received ¹
Better Connections Grant	Connecticut River.		
Town of Windsor Staff	The Downtown Coordinator and Town	\$2,500	Secured
	Manager will assist with community		
	outreach		
Windsor Improvement	To assist with outreach with the business	\$1,500	Secured
Corporation (WIC)	community.		

Southern Windsor County	Will support eligible project for cleanup	Up to	Secured ¹
Regional Planning	with funding from the RLF	\$300,000	
Commission (SWCRPC)			
Town of Springfield Staff	The Town staff will assist with community	\$2,500	Secured
	outreach		
Town of Springfield-	Woolson Block redevelopment in	\$400,000	Secured ¹
Community Development	downtown Springfield		
Block Grant			
Springfield Regional	These organizations will work with the	\$5,000	Secured
Development Corporation,	applicant on community outreach through		
Springfield on the Move	the use of social media, newsletters and		
and the Springfield	soliciting volunteer support.		
Chamber of Commerce			
The Springfield Regional	These organizations are working together	\$1 million	Summer
Development Corporation	to develop an application for \$1 million		2018
and the Southern Windsor	for the demolition of the J&L #1		Application
County Regional Planning			
Commission			

¹ Support documents attached.

3. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

3.a. Engaging the Community

3.a.i. Community Involvement Plan: The Community Involvement Plan (CIP) will be designed to reach all levels of the community and to maintain community engagement over the life of these projects for both target areas. It is anticipated that the CIP will be tailored to advancing identified brownfield sites in the target areas that are ready to begin the assessment process. Upon award, the SWCRPC will issue a press release with an overview of the brownfields assessment program and opportunities for community involvement in the process. The press release will refer the public to program material available on the SWCRPC website and at town halls, as well as a contact for questions and more information. The RPC maintains a website with a section dedicated to brownfields work in the region, a Facebook page, and publishes newsletters, all of which will highlight the brownfield assessment program and target areas. Social media has proven to be a successful means to reach the public of both Target Areas as has the use of Front Porch Forum – a free, list serve emailing where members can share various classified-type postings. Both of these approaches will work well for Windsor and Springfield.

The Program Coordinator will arrange public meetings for this project which will typically involve discussions held as part of regularly scheduled town board meetings. These meetings are noticed a week prior with date, time and place through local papers, on town websites and town hall postings encouraging public attendance and comment. For interested public unable to attend, the notice will include a contact and resource for more information.

Meetings are routinely filmed for local access television stations providing a good forum for reaching a broad spectrum of the public. Meeting minutes are also posted on town websites. Follow-up meetings may be held at redeveloped brownfields, such as the Windsor Welcome Center and One Hundred River Street. Notification of public meetings will also be made through the distribution channels of the community partners' organizations' including websites and Facebook page to reach all community sectors and target area stakeholders. The Program Coordinator will work with the towns and with

community organizations, Springfield on the Move, Windsor Downtown Program, Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce and Springfield Regional Development Corporation on public outreach activities and venues and will provide needed handout materials for distribution.

3.a.ii. Communicating Progress: The RPC will attend noticed town meetings periodically as the project progresses to provide updates, solicit input and answer questions. Progress will also be communicated through press releases in local papers, on the SWCRPC/Brownfields webpage, through social media, and in RPC newsletters that are distributed to a mailing list of over 300 individuals and organizations in and around the region. Adjacent property owners to assessed sites will receive specific notification on updates including reference materials or links to these resources, as will the stakeholders above for their own internal distribution. The Program Coordinator will also provide monthly updates with material handouts at Brownfield Steering Committee and RPC board meetings, as needed. Communications will cover the site selection, planned environmental assessment activities, assessment results and next steps in remediation planning.

3.b. Partnerships with Government Agencies

3.b.i. <u>Local/State/Tribal Environmental Authority:</u> The RPC works closely with an assigned Project Manager from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) at every stage of the site assessment process. The DEC provides technical assistance, and ensures that all work plans and site assessment reports are in accordance with standards based on risk factors or background levels of contaminants approved by the Vermont Department of Health (DOH). The Project Manager also provides building surveys, approves final documents and assists with issuing Certificates of Completion or Site Management Activity Completed letters and with federal input to EPA Project Officer when needed. The RPC also works closely with the DOH on sites with asbestos and lead and with the DEC with petroleum contaminated sites to ensure assessments are adequate for the proposed reuse, as well as to ensure abatement plans are prepared in accordance with their regulations.

3.b.ii. Other Governmental Partnerships: As an agency that serves our member towns, SWCRPC will work closely with local town officials, development boards and commissions where brownfields sites have been identified and assessed to ensure activities are aligned with town and regional plans. Successful completion of this project will also require strong coordination with various supporting governmental resources. Through the Vermont Brownfield Economic Revitalization Alliance, many of these agencies as well as the Agency of Natural Resources and Department of Health collaborating to bring complex sites back to reuse. One such BERA project, the Jones and Lamson site, is located adjacent to the Springfield Target Area.

The Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development provides low interest loans or grants through its Brownfield Revitalization Fund to enrollees in the VT DEC's BRELLA Program. The Vermont Community Development Program assists communities on a competitive basis by providing financial and technical assistance in the areas of housing, economic development, public facilities, public services, and handicapped accessibility. The Vermont Agency of Transportation has granted the Town of Windsor a Better Connections grant to assist in the planning of the Windsor Target Area and Riverside Neighborhood; technical and financial assistance for projects with a transit focus.

The RPC will use its extensive experience in seeking and obtaining funding to support clean-up and redevelopment of brownfield sites following assessment. Vermont State has a number of funding programs which will be pursued to support those efforts, including the Department Environmental Conservation, Brownfields Economic Revitalization Alliance, Vermont Economic Development

Authority, and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development. Given the historic nature of these sites, the RPC will also work closely with the state Historic Preservation Office on assessment and remediation planning activities.

3.c. Partnerships with Community Organizations

3.c.i. <u>Community Organization Descriptions & Roles:</u> The following community-based organizations have agreed to partner with the RPC in the ongoing work of the SWCBRP. Some of groups have been involved with the program for many years, and are invaluable in providing the connection with community members.

Springfield Regional Development Corporation (SRDC): The main economic development arm in the region is a private non-profit for business services and economic development. SRDC will assist in coordinating property owners and developers and in obtaining eligibility information and site access.

Springfield on the Move (SOM) and Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce (SRCC) are non-profit organizations that work within the community to enhance Springfield's downtown and improve its economic viability. These organizations will assist in outreach activities.

Connecticut River Conservancy, dedicated to the preservation of the Connecticut River, will participate in community outreach and engagement.

Windsor Improvement Corporation (WIC) together with Windsor Downtown Program (WDP) are committed to revitalization and redevelopment of downtown Windsor and will assist in community engagement and site access and obtaining eligibility information.

Private Investors: Promoting Vermont's tech economy through advancement in rural technological infrastructure, entrepreneurial networking, and collaboration.

3.c.ii. Letters of Commitment

Letters of Commitment are attached.

3.d. Partnerships with Workforce Development Programs

The RPC makes every effort to hire locally and currently has a pre-qualified list of Vermont based environmental consultants. The RPC also works very closely with the SRDC whose Executive Director also serves as the Chair of the River Valley Technical Center's (RVTC) Board of Directors, a regional Vocational-Technical Center that serves the Springfield area and is part of the Howard Dean Education Center, the region's primary workforce training facility. The RVTC will be engaged in any customized training and cooperative work experiences connected with the site remediation and redevelopment. Additionally, the technical programs offered by the RVTC will ensure that tenants of the building will have qualified potential employees.

4. PROJECT BENEFITS

4.a. Welfare Environmental and Public Health Benefits

The redevelopment of the proposed brownfields properties will improve the quality of life for the communities as a whole, but particularly for those residents that live within the target areas. Residential developments in small industrial towns are typically located near downtown areas or interspersed among brownfields as workers sought to be near their place of employment at a time when transportation was limited. It is anticipated that revitalization of these project areas, after assessment and remediation, will provide the following specific benefits to the local communities and, particularly, the Park Street and Jarvis Street neighborhoods:

- A positive public health impact for those with asthma and a reduced cancer risk for the community as a whole is anticipated. Risk of exposure to hazardous site materials; respirable dust, and soil contamination will be reduced; and air and water quality will improve where people walk and recreate.
- Enhanced opportunities and easy access to healthy life style activities are expected in the target areas. The riverwalk and connected green spaces in Springfield will make the downtown area more walkable and will encourage more physical activity that is casual and easily accessible, such as walking or biking to work. In Windsor, a boat launch and multi-purpose pedestrian path along the Connecticut River will be easily accessible by the local community and draw more visitors to the river increasing interest in the area.
- Eliminating blight in the target areas will also reduce illegal dumping, vandalism and other forms of risk behavior. This combined with the above healthy living benefits and new employment opportunities will help to reduce depression and substance abuse, particularly for town youth and sensitive populations.
- Improved water quality with new stormwater management including reduced impervious surfaces, installed bio-retention techniques, and improved riparian buffers will increase sustainability and flood resiliency. Reconnection to the river with enhanced river access and educational opportunities for outreach on water quality and stewardship of local watersheds, with educational signage on stormwater management techniques for future development projects.

4.b. Economic and Community Benefits

The SWCRPC has a strong working relationship with federal state, regional and local partners to ensure a positive result in redeveloping the targeted sites. Redevelopment of these proposed sites will increase residential housing and employment opportunities, create jobs and reduce poverty and less reliance on social services. The elimination of blight and dilapidated buildings will have a positive impact on surrounding housing values and local retail. Town budgets will improve with growth in the grand list and added tax revenue from new businesses, new housing, and new residents. These activities will provide a strong environment for additional development.

- The proposed Park Street School live-in Tech Accelerator will lead to new, web-focused entrepreneurs in Springfield. As their businesses grow, jobs will follow, and with the high level of fiber optic high speed internet, Springfield is a prime location for this endeavor. The planned mixed-use commercial/residential redevelopment of Parks & Woolson complex will provide next stage work space to these entrepreneurs all within easy access to downtown retail space and amenities. Centrally located residential housing with 'walk-to' employment, food markets, retail and local social and healthcare services will incentivize new residents to shop and dine locally boosting local revenues.
- An educational Computer Science Initiative for the Springfield public school district will provide education in coding for local schools serving 1500 students and help to develop job skills and increase employment opportunities with 'train-the-trainer' programs. The central location is conveniently located within walking distance of middle and high schools for after school hours.
- Improvements to the Windsor waterfront will bring more tourism to the town and connect the Jarvis street area to local businesses and other future development plans. Development of public space will provide a sense of place to residents along the river and Windsor.

- The continued commercial or light-industrial redevelopment plans on Clinton St., the "gateway" to downtown Springfield, will result in new, year-round higher wage employment as well as help attract new residents to the region. Current plans for the Bryant Grinder Site include subdividing the interior for 4-5 different tenants. Preliminary discussions are underway with a possible tenant for the southern section of the building. Preliminary employment estimates, based on full occupancy, are in the 200-250 job range.
- New open spaces and streetscapes that bring people closer to the town and the river will instill an appreciation and sense of pride for an attractive and aesthetically pleasing downtown area and the economic potential for their community. The incorporation of best management practices and flood resiliency in redevelopment plans will also reduce future flood hazard risk to the town.
- Historic downtown buildings are difficult, if not infeasible, to modify for handicap access due to the lack of space between structures and interior conditions. Redeveloped buildings and new spaces will be more handicap accessible for the relatively high percentage of community disabled.
- Over the long term, healthier lifestyles are expected to improve the overall health of the community and reduce healthcare cost for employees, employer, and better access to local healthcare facilities.

5. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILTY AND PAST PERFORMANCE

5.a. Audit Findings

No adverse findings have been found in recent financial audits, and the RPC in FY 14 had a single audit in accordance with OMB Circular A-133. The final audit report has been received and there were no findings associated with the audit. The RPC has not been required to comply with any "high risk" terms and conditions under OMB Circular A-102.

5.b. Programmatic Capability

The RPC Brownfields Team which is comprised of local officials from the SWCRPC Board and town representatives with extensive knowledge of existing brownfields in the region, serves as the decision making body for fund expenditures.

The BPC oversees the grant administration tasks to ensure timely disbursements and accurate and complete record retention and EPA reporting. Coordinators are responsible for QEP procurement activities. The selection process for QEPs uses the Vermont Department of Economic and Development's Business to Business Bid System. The BSC, together with the BPC and Executive Director have streamlined this selection process with the development of a 'short list' of pre-qualified environmental firms to select from. This allows for an efficiency enabling our team to have a number of QEPs to be addressing a number of sites, simultaneously. In addition to managing several EPA grants as described below, the RPC is well versed in the administration of federal funds. The BPC also acts as the liaison between the owner/developer of a property and the VT DEC, EPA, and environmental consultants/ contractors, attend BSC meetings to provide committee members site information needed to select and prioritize sites for assessment and cleanup, and attend the EPA Brownfields Conferences and webinars to remain versed in EPA Brownfield's policies and ACRES reporting.

The Executive Director is heavily involved with the Project, and has held his position for over 25 years. He attends all Steering Committee and Board meetings, is a valued member of the subcommittee that reviews and selects QEPs, and reviews all EPA quarterly progress reports. In addition, he and the BPC work closely with the Financial Administrator in developing realistic and attainable budgets for all EPA grants. The Executive Director, widely known throughout the state and well respected in the

community, makes him a valuable asset when leveraging funding and mediating 'political' conflicts on projects when they arise.

The RPC is fortunate to have established solid working relationships over the past ten years with legal counsel, QEPs, and employees from the Vermont DEC and DOH. Ten regional planning commissions have also formed a brownfields network in which issues and problems can be flushed out and resolved.

5.c. Measuring Environmental Results: Anticipated Outputs/Outcomes

The RPC will track, measure, and evaluate progress in achieving desired project outcomes, outputs, and project results. Within the pre-grant period, the RPC will develop a work plan for approval by EPA Region 1 that includes anticipated outputs and outcomes. This information will be tracked within quarterly reports, the ACRES database, and final reports. Tracked information will include funding received, contamination present, acres of property cleaned up, acres redeveloped and funds leveraged. The RPC has a long-standing relationship with our assigned EPA Project Officer with whom we will work closely to evaluate our progress

5.d. Past Performance and Accomplishments

5.d.i. Currently or Has Ever Received an EPA Brownfields Grant

5.d.i.1. Accomplishments: As shown below, the RPC has had a number of successes resulting in remediated and redeveloped properties in Springfield include: the former Fellows Gear Shaper at 100 River Street now occupied by the Springfield Health Center, the former Springfield Foundry now Edgar May Health and Recreation Center, the former Lucas Industries property now the Springfield Police Station, and Jones Center and Artisan Surfaces which are currently used for light manufacturing. Other Springfield sites have been assessed but did not require clean-up or continue with additional assessment and clean-up activities including Bryant Grinder and the former Jones & Lamson plant. Windsor properties successfully redeveloped include Windsor Welcome Center and the Old Windsor High School. The RPC has also supported several Phase I/II ESAs within the Windsor Target Area including a Phase III ESA of the former Goodyear Plant in 2001 and 2003. Other redeveloped brownfield properties in the region include Perkinsville School which is now a community center, the former Ludlow Armory, and the Ascutney Mountain Base Lodge which was abated for recreational reuse.

5.d.i.2. Compliance with Grant Requirements: The RPC was compliant with all grant work plans and reporting requirements including quarterly and final reporting and ACRES reporting. The closed grants in the chart have no remaining funds. An RLF Clean-Up Grant #96193601 for period 10-1-2014 to 9-30-2018 is open with a current balance of approximately \$378,000 funds remaining as of 9-30-2017. With assessment funding, the RPC will be expending its remaining RLF funds on the remediation of the properties described in this proposal.

Closed Grants	# Pro	perties	# Reports
	# Assessed	# Cleaned-Up	
2013 Hazardous Assessment	3		12
2010 Petro Assessment	10		16
2009 Brownfield Cleanup RLF		2	16
2008 Haz/Petro Assessment	8		12
2007 Petro Assessment	3		12
2003 Brownfield Cleanup RLF		10	53
2009 ARRA RLF	3		16

ATTACHMENT E THRESHOLD CRITERIA RESPONSES

THRESHOLD CRITERIA RESPONSES

1. Applicant Eligibility

The Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission (RPC) is a Regional Planning Commission, created under Vermont statute, V.S.A. T.24 § 4341 (see below for statutory language). The RPC was established in the 1960s and provides technical assistance to its member towns. The RPC Board of Commissioners (Board) consists of representatives of its ten member towns (Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish, Chester, Ludlow, Reading, Springfield, Weathersfield, West Windsor and Windsor) who are appointed by the local legislative bodies each year.

Title 24: Municipal and County Government

Chapter 117: Municipal and Regional Planning and Development 4341. Creation of regional planning commissions

§ 4341. Creation of regional planning commissions

- (a) A regional planning commission may be created at any time by the act of the voters or the legislative body of each of a number of contiguous municipalities, upon the written approval of the agency of commerce and community development. Approval of a designated region shall be based on the results of studies jointly carried out by representatives of the municipalities and the agency of commerce and community development to determine whether the municipalities involved constitute a logical geographic and a coherent socio-economic planning area. Evidence must be shown that local, state, and federal funding will be adequate to satisfy current requirements and to provide a continuing planning program of a scope sufficient for comprehensive and functional area wide planning. All municipalities within a designated region shall be considered members of the regional planning commission. Such area shall be referred to herein as a region, and may include municipalities located in a neighboring state.
- (b) Two or more existing regional planning commissions may be merged to form a single commission by act of the voters in a majority of the municipalities in each of the merging regions. (Added 1967, No. 334 (Adj. Sess.), § 1, eff. March 23, 1968; amended 1971, No. 257 (Adj. Sess.), § 1, eff. April 11, 1972; 1981, No. 132 (Adj. Sess.), § 4; 1987, No. 200 (Adj. Sess.), § 19, eff. July 1, 1989; 1995, No. 190 (Adj. Sess.), § 1(a)).

2. Letters from the State

Two letters from Patricia Coppolino Program Manager of the Brownfields Response Program, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), is enclosed (see Attachment B).

3. Community Involvement

The RPC will continue efforts to reach out to the communities in which brownfields sites are located to solicit input and to involve citizens concerning site assessment work under this grant. The first level of involvement with the larger community starts with the Brownfields Steering Committee, which as previously stated, is comprised of local officials from the Board (each representing one of the ten towns), two at-large local representatives and one representative from the Springfield Regional Development Corporation (Note: Steering Committee Bylaws state that any member with a financial interest in a site may not vote). For sites that are critical to community revitalization, the RPC will hold public meetings at selectboard meetings of towns in which the sites are located to provide project updates and to engage the public. These meetings are generally filmed for local access television stations, and provide a good forum for reaching a broad spectrum of the public.

Additionally, project updates are reported via the following means: the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission's bi-monthly newsletter, the SWCRPC's Facebook page, and on the Brownfield page of SWCRPC's website.

4. Site Eligibility and Property Ownership Eligibility

This section is not applicable as this is a Community-Wide assessment application. However, through the successful implementation of several past EPA Brownfield Assessment Grants the RPC has gained significant experience with this process and ensures that all sites under this project will meet the Site Eligibility requirements of the EPA.

ATTACHMENT C LEVERAGED RESOURCES DOCUMENTATION

RF - 96193601 - 1 Page 1

PROTECTOR AGENCY - SHAMMAN AGENCY - SHAM	
WAL PROTECTION	

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Assistance Amendment

	DI - 90 1930	our-i rage i
GRANT NUMBER (FAIN):	96193601	
MODIFICATION NUMBER:	1	DATE OF AWARD
PROGRAM CODE:	BF	09/22/2015
TYPE OF ACTION		MAILING DATE
Augmentation: Increase		09/29/2015
PAYMENT METHOD:		ACH#
Advance		10256

RECIPIENT TYPE: Special District

Send Payment Request to:

US EPA LVFC 4220 S. Maryland Pkwy Bldg C, Ste 503 Las Vegas, NV 89119

Tel: 702-798-2471 Fax: 702-798-2423

RECIPIENT:

Southern Windsor County Reg. Plng. Comm.

P.O. Box 320 Ascutney, VT 05030 **EIN:** 03-0227950

Phone: 802-674-9201

PAYEE:

Southern Windsor County Reg. Plng. Comm.

P.O. Box 320 Ascutney, VT 05030

PROJECT MANAGER **EPA PROJECT OFFICER EPA GRANT SPECIALIST**

Daniel Potter Alan Peterson

P.O. Box 320 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 Ascutney, VT 05030 Boston, MA 02109-3912 E-Mail: Dpotter@swcrpc.org E-Mail: Peterson.Alan@epa.gov

Phone: 617-918-1022

Katonva Parker

Grants Management Office, OARM 16-2 E-Mail: Parker.Katonya@epa.gov

Phone: 617-918-1967

PROJECT TITLE AND EXPLANATION OF CHANGES

SWCRPC Brownfields Reuse Program

Amendment #1 approves a supplemental increase of funds in the amount of \$250,000. Extends project/budget period end dates through 09/30/2018. Administrative conditions have been updated. All other terms and conditions of this award remain unchanged and in full effect.

BUDGET PERIOD PROJECT PERIOD TOTAL BUDGET PERIOD COST TOTAL PROJECT PERIOD COST 10/01/2014 - 09/30/2018 10/01/2014 - 09/30/2018 \$500,000.00 \$500,000.00

NOTICE OF AWARD

Based on your Application dated 08/19/2015 including all modifications and amendments, the United States acting by and through the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hereby awards \$250,000. EPA agrees to cost-share 80.00% of all approved budget period costs incurred, up to and not exceeding total federal funding of \$500,000. Recipient's signature is not required on this agreement. The recipient demonstrates its commitment to carry out this award by either: 1) drawing down funds within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date; or 2) not filing a notice of disagreement with the award terms and conditions within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date. If the recipient disagrees with the terms and conditions specified in this award, the authorized representative of the recipient must furnish a notice of disagreement to the EPA Award Official within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date. In case of disagreement, and until the disagreement is resolved, the recipient should not draw down on the funds provided by this award/amendment, and any costs incurred by the recipient are at its own risk. This agreement is subject to applicable EPA regulatory and statutory provisions, all terms and conditions of this agreement and any attachments.

ISSUING OFFICE (GRANTS MANAGEMENT OFFICE)	AWARD APPROVAL OFFICE
ORGANIZATION / ADDRESS	ORGANIZATION / ADDRESS
EPA New England 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100	U.S. EPA, Region 1
Boston, MA 02109-3912	5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 Boston. MA 02109-3912
	200.0.1, 1 1 02.100 00.12

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Digital signature applied by EPA Award Official for Michael Kenyon - Director Office of Administration & Resource Management

DATE 09/22/2015

Fred Weeks - Award Official delegate



State of Vermont
Department of Housing and Community Development
National Life Building – North [phone] 802-828-3211
One National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

Agency of Commerce and Community Development

November 8, 2017

Tom Yennerell, Town Manager Town of Springfield 96 Main Street Springfield VT 05156

RE: IG-2017-Springfield-00001; Woolson Block

VCDP Implementation Grant Award

Dear Mr. Yennerell:

I am pleased to inform you that on **October 17, 2017**, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (Agency) made an award of up to \$400,000, as recommended by the Community Development Board, to partially fund the proposal in the application.

This grant award is subject to the enclosed Award Conditions; be sure to read them carefully. Award Condition #2 must be fully met by **May 1, 2018**, as stated in Award Condition #1, before a grant agreement will be offered. Please keep in mind that the submission of materials in response to the Award Conditions may not completely satisfy the award conditions, as staff may have further questions upon their review. The Town of Springfield will be requested to provide a written explanation to the Community Development Board, at its June 14, 2018 board meeting, if it is unable to meet this timeframe. The Board will consider rescinding the award in that event.

VCDP awardees shall be required to use the Agency's online grants management system to manage their grant(s). This includes processes such as Environmental Review (ER), submitting award condition documentation, requisitioning, and progress reporting. Please contact your CD Specialist if you have any questions about using the online system.

This award is further conditioned by federal and state laws and provisions which will ensure adequate financial and program performance in accordance with the application. These provisions will be set out in the grant agreement, along with such other specifics as may be appropriate.

We understand that Cindy Ingersoll with Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission is to administer this grant. Please notify the Agency if this is inaccurate. Please review the chapter "Letter of Award and Award Conditions" in the <u>Grants Management Guide (GMG)</u>, which provides information on what you need to do to get a grant agreement offer.

The Environmental Release for this project is already effective and states that the ER requirement has been met as long as your project activities do not change; however, there may be ER conditions that still need to be met and are detailed in the ER Release Letter. Please follow the guidance identified in the ER Release Letter and upload documentation in the online system for this ER to satisfy any remaining conditions. If you have questions on the ER process, please contact Quin Mann at 828-1357 or Quin.Mann@vermont.gov.



Tom Yennerell, Town Manger November 8, 2017 Page 2

Again, congratulations on your award, and remember, Program staff is here to assist you with any questions. The community effort devoted to the project is to be commended, and I wish you complete success in carrying out this important project.

Sincerely,

Michael Schirling, Secretary Agency of Commerce and Community Development

MS:AS:cmb Enclosures

cc: Cindy Ingersoll, SWCRPC

Ann K. Kroll, Director, Grants Management Josh Hanford, Deputy Commissioner

Annina Seiler, CD Specialist



State of Vermont Agency of Transportation Policy, Planning, & Intermodal Division Jackie Cassino BC Program Manager

1 National Life Drive Davis Building, 5th Floor Montpelier, VT 05633-5001

jackie.cassino@vermont.gov

[phone] 802-272-2368

State of Vermont
Agency of Commerce and Community Development
Department of Housing and Community
Richard Amore

BC Program Manager

1 National Life Drive Davis

Building, 6th Floor Montpelier, VT 05633-5001

richard.amore@vermont.gov

[phone] 802-828-5229

http://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/projects-programs/better-connections

March 8, 2017

Robert Haight Downtown Coordinator Town of Windsor 29 Union Street Windsor, VT 05089

RE: Better Connections Grant Agreement Offer - Windsor Creating the Right Side of the Tracks

Dear Robert,

Congratulations on your project's successful application for funding to the 2017-2018 Better Connections Grant Program. Your project was approved for partial funding, for a total of \$62,928 (not inclusive of local match and/or additional match) to develop an activity center plan.

In accordance with the requirements of the program your award is capped at the amount of the award, so it will be important for the municipality to monitor the project budget closely. Funding will be available once a grant agreement with the Agency of Transportation (VTrans) is executed. Therefore, reimbursable work cannot begin until the grant agreement is executed. We expect that you will move the project forward expeditiously and have outlined some of those expectations on the attached Project Commitment Form. Please review the form, sign it and return it to me within 10 days of this Grant Agreement Offer. Once the form is received, we will begin working on your complete grant agreement.

As you know, this is a reimbursement program and not a direct grant. The Town will be responsible for 10% of the total project costs. If there will be any donated or in-kind services or materials proposed as part of the local match, a proposal must be presented to the Better Connections Program Managers for approval in advance. The offering of this award should not be construed as approval of all work, methods, terms or other specifics proposed in your application. Your award will be governed by the terms of the Grant Agreement with the VTrans, including all applicable VTrans, State, and Federal program requirements.

ATTACHMENT D LETTERS OF COMMITMENT



November 14, 2017

Thomas Kennedy, Executive Director Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission Ascutney Professional Building, Route 5 P.O. Box 320 Ascutney, VT 05030-0320

Re: Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission 2018 EPA Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

Please consider this as a letter of support for the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission's (SWCRPC) 2018 Brownfields Assessment Grant application from the Environmental Protection Agency. SRDC has been a supporter of the Southern Windsor County Brownfields Reuse Project since its inception in 1999. We have seen many successes over the years, including assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of the Windsor Welcome Center, the Cavendish Green, One Hundred River Street, and the Ludlow Armory.

While these efforts were made possible by a variety of means, all of these properties started with assessment which ignited the redevelopment flame at all of the aforementioned properties. Now, we are excited to be a part of several new initiatives in the revitalization of historic Downtown Springfield. We fully support efforts by Springfield on the Move and the Springfield Streetscapes Master Plan which will help to shine a more attractive light on Springfield's downtown area for future redevelopment.

As Executive Director of SRDC, I will volunteer my continued service on the Brownfields Steering Committee for the duration of this assessment grant project and will assist in any way I can, with obtaining site eligibility information and site access for properties in the target areas of Springfield and Windsor.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Flint

Executive Director



Caitlin Christiana Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce 56 Main Street, Suite 2 Springfield, VT 05156

November 10, 2017

Thomas Kennedy, Executive Director Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission Ascutney Professional Building, Route 5 P.O. Box 320 Ascutney, VT 05030-0320

Re: Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission 2018 EPA Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

On behalf of the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to express our strong support of the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission's application for the 2018 EPA Brownfield's Assessment Grant proposal. We had tremendous community participation in the development of the Springfield Streetscapes Revitalization Planning process. As a result, our citizens and business communities are excited about the economic potential this plan provides and are anxious to move forward. Our community has recently been pulling together to collaborate on projects that are boosting the morale of local citizens and beginning to bring prosperity back to our region. These efforts are critical to the economic development of the Springfield area and our ability to draw new business and families to live and work here.

These funds are needed to begin the process of assessing and remediating these brownfields sites, most of which have already been identified and eyed for redevelopment potential. We are experiencing significant positive momentum at this time, and we must continue to build upon recent successes. The Streetscape Plan is vital to breathing new life into our community, and the brownfields are one of the obstacles we need to tackle in order to move forward.

The Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce is pleased to assist the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission on community outreach for this project and we look forward to working with the Town, helping to attract new investment in the redevelopment of the downtown and bringing this plan to fruition.

With enthusiasm,

Caitlin Christiana Executive Director 802-885-2779

Matt Dunne 314 Clay Hill Road Hartland, VT 05048 802-272-5499

November 13, 2017

Thomas Kennedy, Executive Director Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission Ascutney Professional Building, Route 5 P.O. Box 320 Ascutney, VT 05030-0320

Re: Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission 2018 EPA Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

Please consider this as a letter of support for the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission's 2018 Brownfields Assessment Grant application from the Environmental Protection Agency. As a former state legislator and current private property owner/developer, I can certainly vouch for the need for this funding in the region.

I'm well aware of the vibrant history of this area and have been working to help restore the prosperity that once was the hallmark of the Connecticut River Valley. When I was in the Vermont Senate, I spearheaded legislation that created some of the liability protections that the Department of Environmental Conservation makes available to those considering brownfield projects. As you know, addressing these kinds of contamination issues are critical to redevelopment in community that been a center of manufacturing.

Now, I find myself looking at ways to potentially acquire and redevelop some of these challenging properties, including those centered in Springfield's downtown. My partners and I are working closely with the Regional Planning Commission, Springfield Regional Development Corporation and the Town of Springfield in this effort and certainly would continue to collaborate with the RPC should this grant be awarded.

I am in regular contact with local stakeholders and will continue to publicly promote redevelopment initiatives in Springfield. Suffice to say, we strongly support this application for assessment funding.

Sincerely



15 Bank Row, Greenfield, MA 01301 413.772.2020 · www.ctriver.org

November 9, 2017

Tom Kennedy, Executive Director Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission Ascutney Professional Building, Route 5 P.O. Box 320 Ascutney, VT 05030-0320

Re: Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission 2018 EPA Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

The Connecticut River Conservancy (formerly the Connecticut River Watershed Council) is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to advocating for the protection of the Connecticut River and its watershed. For 65 years, CRC has been the principal voice for improving the quality of life for all inhabitants of this vital New England watershed. As stewards of this heritage, CRC works to collaborate, educate, organize, restore, and intervene to preserve the health of the whole watershed for generations to come. Our work informs our vision of both economic and ecological abundance throughout the entire Connecticut River watershed.

All of the proposed sites for assessment outlined in this application for Springfield and Windsor, VT are either situated along the banks of the Connecticut River or its tributary, the Black River, or are located in urban areas that drain to this critical watershed. These surface waters are vulnerable to, if not already affected by, contaminants from these sites, such as PCBs, petroleum, and chlorinated solvents leaching into the groundwater and surrounding soils. Additionally, the installation of a boat launch and bike path as part of a revitalization of the Windsor waterfront will increase access to the Connecticut River and help garner stewardship of this resource.

We fully support the proposed project to remediate these sites. The revitalization efforts to follow remediation will reduce impervious coverage in the downtown area, improve river buffers and reconnect citizens with a Riverwalk. We are pleased to assist the Southern Windsor County Planning Commission on community outreach for this project and look forward to strengthening our working partnership on other water-related projects moving forward.

We appreciate your strong consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Kathy Urffer

VT/NH River Steward



Thomas Kennedy, Executive Director Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission Ascutney Professional Building, Route 5 P.O. Box 320 Ascutney, VT 05030-0320

Re: Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission 2018 EPA Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

I am writing in support of the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission's (SWCRPC) recent application for a 2018 Brownfields Assessment Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency. Springfield on the Move is a non-profit organization that supports the revitalization of downtown Springfield.

Based our master we have been moving on several of the projects identified in the Master Plan with construction slated for Springfield 2018. We are committed to the revitalization of historic Downtown Springfield and to bringing the Springfield Streetscapes Master Plan to fruition. This proposal would provide the critical funding needed to begin the transformation of downtown brownfield sites.

SOM strongly supports the SWCRPC's application for an EPA Assessment funding and believe that, through our participation in the project, can provide valuable perspective. Currently, SOM is involved in efforts to redevelopment a number of properties in the downtown district in Springfield. As such, we would like to participate with the Regional Planning Commission to ensure our efforts complement one another. Our current work in removing blight from the downtown is providing tangible evidence that we are moving forward after many years of stagnation.

Springfield on the Move will assist with community outreach and work with other local and regional groups to support the implementation of this project. SOM is willing to use its organization resources such as its volunteer base, website and newsletters to support this project. We look forward to our continued progress.

Stephen Plunkard, FASLA

Stephen Commed

Executive Director

Windsor Improvement Corporation PO Box 455 Windsor, VT 05089

Thomas Kennedy, Executive Director Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission Ascutney Professional Building, Route 5 P.O. Box 320 Ascutney, VT 05030-0320

Re: Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission 2018 EPA Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

On behalf of the Windsor Improvement Corporation (WIC), I would like to express our strong support of the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission's application for the 2018 EPA Brownfield's Assessment Grant proposal to address brownfields along our Connecticut River Waterfront.

We are pleased with the many successes over the years with assessment, cleanup and redevelopment of the Windsor Welcome Center as well as ongoing work on the former Diner and Railroad properties. All of these, as well as other important sites, are in the core of Windsor. Recent community efforts to revitalize our waterfront community has drawn more attention to the need to address the contaminated brownfields that surround it. As you know, the Connecticut River is the Town's most vital resource in creating an attractive place to live, work and recreate and revitalization plans for the waterfront are a critical step.

This Brownfields Assessment Grant project will provide the funding needed to begin the process and allow for plans to install the bike path and boat launch to move forward. We anticipate that this project will boost the morale of the local neighborhoods by providing attractive green space and healthy living options.

We look forward to continuing our participation in the Southern Windsor County Brownfields Reuse Project and will provide assistance with brownfield site identification, information needed for site eligibility and site access, as well as, with local community outreach and garnering local support for this project.

Thanks for your continued efforts on behalf of Windsor, and the region.

Sincerely,

John Tansey, President, WIC

John Tansey

Thomas Kennedy, Executive Director Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission Ascutney Professional Building, Route 5 P.O. Box 320 Ascutney, VT 05030-0320

Re: Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission 2018 EPA Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

On behalf of the Windsor Downtown Program, I am writing to express our support of the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission's (SWCRPC) application for the 2018 EPA Brownfield's Assessment Grant proposal to address brownfield properties in our community.

In Windsor, the area involved includes 50 acres of former industrial properties, a former railyard and the active railway. The project includes a number of abandoned and underutilized buildings and is a portion of the second largest historic district in the State of Vermont. Also included is a residential neighborhood constructed as worker housing for the various factories that once were present. This area is subject to flooding and may have areas which were exposed to industrial waste products.

The Town of Windsor and Windsor Downtown are committed to the principles of Smart Growth, sustainability, walkability, and New Urbanism. Through our Better Connections Grant, our goal is to develop an integrated plan addressing the multitude of issues facing this significant portion of the downtown area. Revitalization of the riverfront neighborhood and providing access to the river, the creation of a bike/pedestrian walkway connecting to the shopping area north of downtown, improved vehicular access and the general clean-up of the underused industrial properties are all parts of the project. The funding provided by an EPA Assessment Grant is a vital step towards implementation of this initiative.

The Windsor Downtown Program strongly supports SWCRPC's application for an EPA Assessment funding and believe that, through our participation in the project, can provide valuable guidance to make sure our efforts in Windsor are conducted in a responsible and sustainable manner.

Community outreach is a significant portion of the Better Connections Grant. The Brownfields Assessment Grant will provide additional tools for the project. The Downtown Program will use its organization and resources to support the implementation of the project and to include it in all of our communications with the townspeople.

Sincerely.

Robert D. Haight, Downtown Coordinator

OMB Number: 4040-0004 Expiration Date: 10/31/2019

Application for I	Federal Assista	ınce SF	-424							
* 1. Type of Submissi Preapplication Application Changed/Corre	ion: ected Application	⊠ Ne	ew.		Revision, select appropher (Specify):	oriate letter(s	s):			
* 3. Date Received:		4. Appli	cant Identifier:							
5a. Federal Entity Ide	entifier:			5	5b. Federal Award Ide	entifier:			7	
State Use Only:										
6. Date Received by	State:		7. State Application	Iden	ntifier:					
8. APPLICANT INFO	ORMATION:									
* a. Legal Name: So	outhern Windso	r Coun	ty Regional Pla	nni	ing Commission					
* b. Employer/Taxpay	er Identification Nur	mber (EIN	I/TIN):	- I ⊢	c. Organizational DU	INS:				
d. Address:				<u> </u>						
* Street1: Street2:	38 Ascutney P	ark Pl	ace]
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e. Organizational U	nit:									
Department Name:				D	Division Name:					
f. Name and contac	t information of p	erson to	be contacted on m	atte	ers involving this ap	plication:				
Prefix: Mr.			* First Name	e:	Thomas					
Middle Name:										
	nedy									
Suffix:										
Title: Executive										
Organizational Affiliat	tion:									
* Telephone Number:	: 802-674-9201				Fax Number	er:				
* Email: tkennedy	@swcrpc.org							·		

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:
E: Regional Organization
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:
* Other (specify):
* 10. Name of Federal Agency:
Environmental Protection Agency
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:
66.818
CFDA Title:
Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:
EPA-OLEM-OBLR-17-07
* Title:
FY18 GUIDELINES FOR BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT GRANTS
13. Competition Identification Number:
Title:
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):
Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:
2018 Brownfields Assessment Program for Southern Windsor County, Vermont
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.
Add Attachments Delete Attachments View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424					
16. Congressional Districts Of:					
* a. Applicant	01	* b. Program/Project 01			
Attach an additiona	al list of Program/Project Congressional Distri	cts if needed.			
		Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment			
17. Proposed Pro	oject:				
* a. Start Date: 1	0/01/2018	* b. End Date: 09/30/2021			
18. Estimated Fu	nding (\$):				
* a. Federal	250,000.00				
* b. Applicant	0.00				
* c. State	0.00				
* d. Local	0.00				
* e. Other	0.00				
* f. Program Incon					
* g. TOTAL	250,000.00				
* 19. Is Application	on Subject to Review By State Under Exe	ecutive Order 12372 Process?			
		der the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on			
	subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been s	selected by the State for review.			
c. Program is	not covered by E.O. 12372.				
* 20. Is the Applic		f "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)			
Yes	No				
If "Yes", provide	explanation and attach				
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